

U.S. Army Corps  
Of Engineers  
Baltimore District

# Public Notice

In Reply to Application Number  
CENAB-OP-RMN (US ARMY, APG/H FIELD RANGE/FILL)2007-  
04518-M02

PN07-81

Comment Period: December 26, 2007 to January 26, 2008

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THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE WORK DESCRIBED BELOW. AT THIS TIME, NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED.

The Baltimore District has received an application for a Department of the Army Permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), as described below:

APPLICANT: US Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground  
2201 Aberdeen Boulevard  
Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21005-5001

LOCATION: Nontidal wetlands draining to the Chesapeake Bay, at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Harford County, Maryland

WORK: The applicant proposes to impact approximately 82,643 square feet (1.9 acres) of nontidal wetlands for the construction of a moving armor target facility. The project includes the placement of fill material, consisting of gravel and earthen material, for the construction of a moving target rail, a rail bed, a mover shed, and a protective berm. A temporary woodchip berm for sediment and erosion control is also proposed. The applicant has stated that impacts cannot be further avoided due to testing and safety requirements. The project site is located at a military testing facility. All work is to be completed in accordance with the enclosed plan(s). The applicant has proposed a mitigation plan that includes both creation and enhancement of wetlands. The enhancement includes the eradication of *Phragmites australis* using an approved three-step spray-burn-spray method. It is expected that the treated areas will allow for the successful re-establishment of native wetlands plant species. The proposed wetlands creation would occur at a site to be determined and would be coordinated with the Baltimore District and the Maryland Department of the Environment. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Mr. Jon Romeo of this office at (410) 962-6079.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain

values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The applicant is required to obtain a water quality certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act from the Maryland Department of the Environment. Any written comments concerning the work described above which relate to water quality certification must be received by the Maryland Department of the Environment, Nontidal Wetlands Division, 1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430, Baltimore, Maryland 21230 within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. Written comments concerning the work described above related to the factors listed above or other pertinent factors must be received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, PO Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1715, within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. The 401 certifying agency has a statutory limit of one year to make its decision.

The applicant must obtain any State or local government permits which may be required.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will not affect listed species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

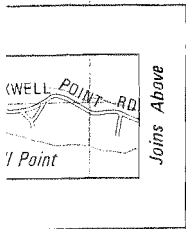
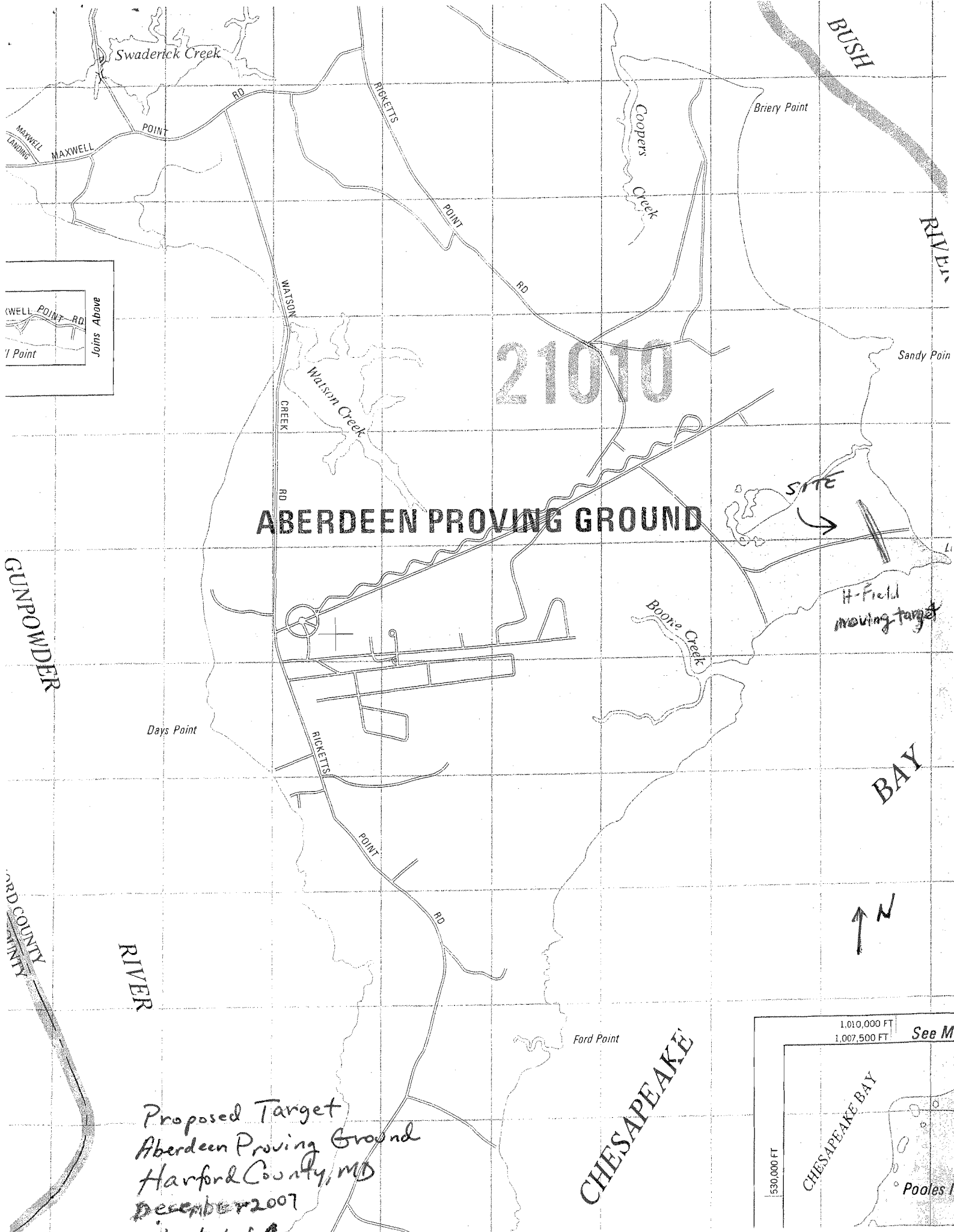
Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties listed as eligible for inclusion therein are located at the site of the proposed work. Currently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

The evaluation of the impact of the work described above on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Any person who has an interest which may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit may request a public hearing. The request, which must be in writing, must be received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, PO Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period as specified as above to receive consideration. Also, it must clearly state forth the interest which may be adversely affected by this activity in the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected.

It is requested that you communicated the foregoing information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. G. Hobbs", written in a cursive style.

VANCE G. HOBBS  
Chief, Maryland Section Northern



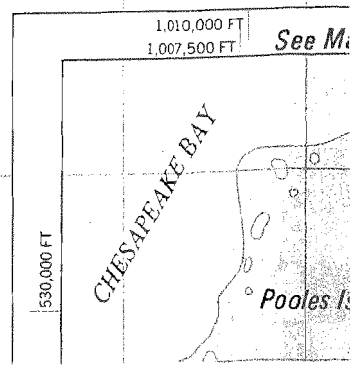
GUNPOWDER

HARFORD COUNTY

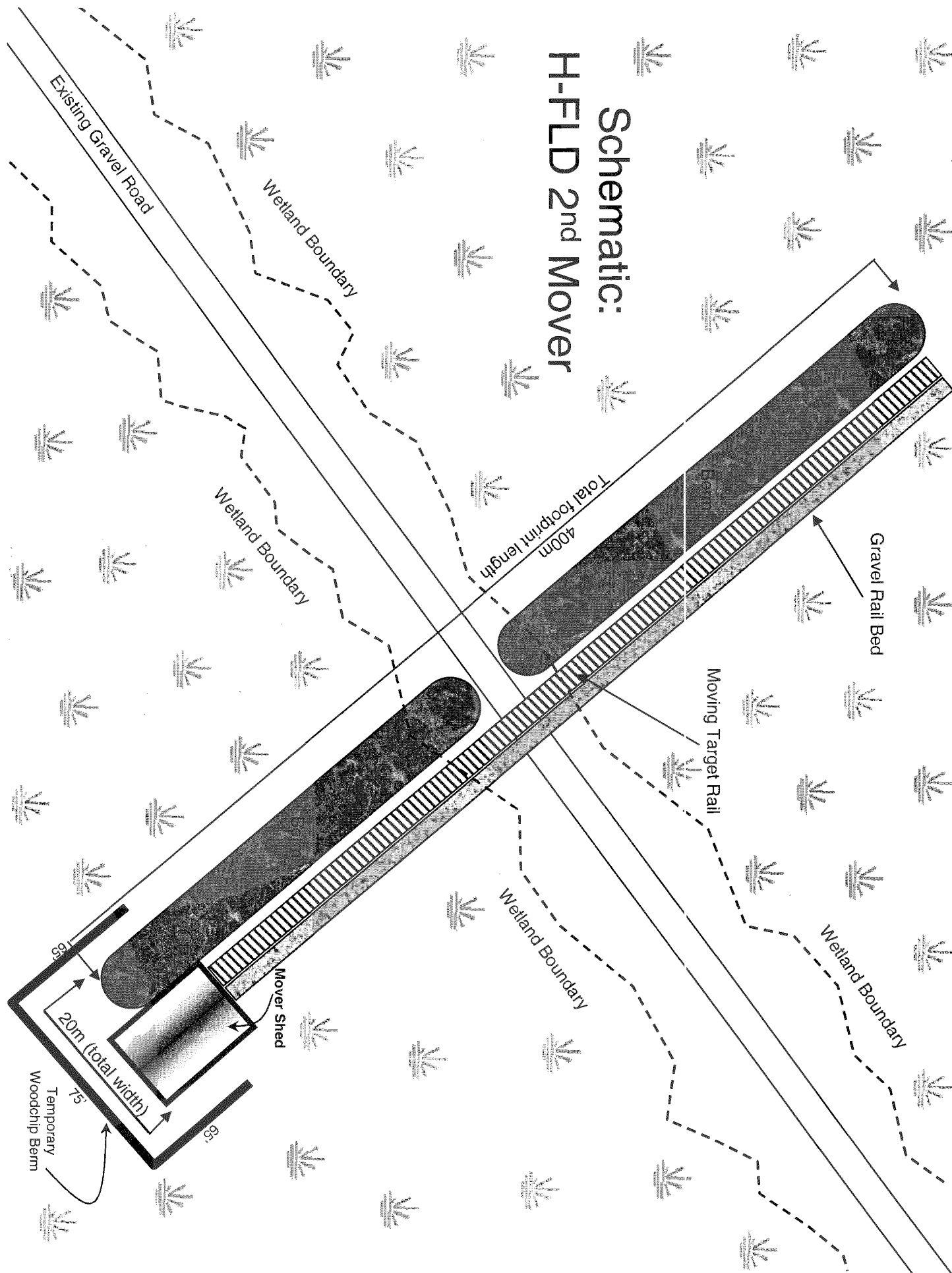
RIVER

CHESAPEAKE

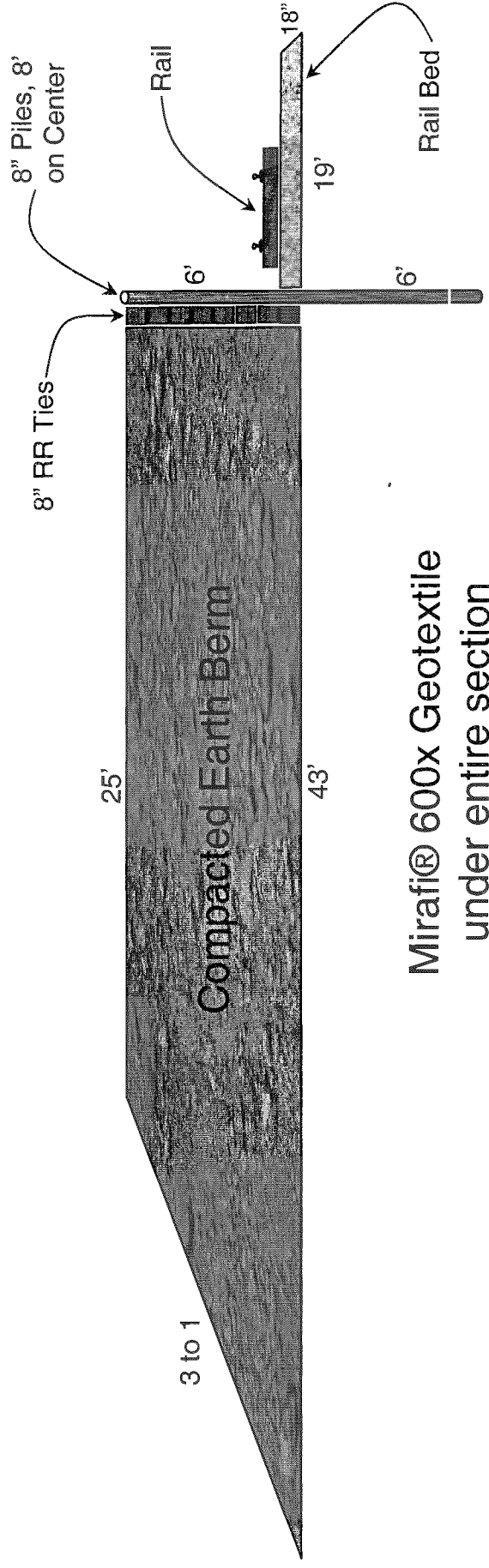
Proposed Target  
Aberdeen Proving Ground  
Harford County, MD  
December 2007  
sheet 1 of 4



# Schematic: H-FLD 2nd Mover



# Cross-section, H-Field 2<sup>nd</sup> Mover Berm and Rail Bed



Mirafi® 600x Geotextile  
under entire section

\*Not to scale\*

# Typical Woodchip Berm Cross-section

